

In the Specification:

Before the first paragraph on page 1 (added):

This application is a divisional of co-pending application serial number 10/124,537, filed April 17, 2002, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

The second full paragraph on page 5 (currently amended):

The inner layer 30 is preferably composed of Kevlar material having a weight of at least about 14 oz. per square yard, more preferably, at least about 20 oz. per square yard. Kevlar fiber, which also desirably has a fire resistance up to a temperature of about 650 degrees F., is a type of fiber of the class of aromatic polyamides or aramids (more specifically, a p-aramid) which is marketed by E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company of Wilmington, DE. Kevlar Plus material, which contains Kevlar fibers, is also marketed by E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company of Wilmington, DE. The term "Kevlar material" is meant to include, for the purposes of this specification and the claims, blends of Kevlar and other fibers which blends have a cut resistance of at least about 0.9 kg., and including Kevlar Plus material.

Paragraph which spans pages 5 and 6 (currently amended):

Examples of other suitable cut-resistant materials for inner layer 30 are Thermobest Plus material (higher percentage of Kevlar fiber than Thermobest material for better abrasion resistance), Norbest 822 material (a blend of PBI (polybenzimidazole) and Kevlar fibers), Norbest 845 material (heavier blend of PBI and Kevlar fibers than Norbest 822 material), and Keybest material (100 percent Kevlar twill for superior cut and abrasion resistance) all of which are also marketed by National Safety Apparel, Inc. Another example of a suitable cut-resistant material for inner layer 30 is ballistic

Kevlar material such as disclosed in the aforesaid U.S. patent 5,437,538, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Paragraph which spans pages 6 and 7 (currently amended):

In order to provide a buffer between the inner layer 30 and a person to be protected while also affording the aesthetically pleasing appearance and comfort of a blanket, also in accordance with the present invention, each of the outer layers 32 is composed of a suitable buffer material, i.e., a pliable material having a softness and body to provide the feel of a blanket. The buffer material of the outer layers 32 is preferably durable (can withstand repeated washings without ripping or tearing so that it can be re-cycled, i.e., reused after it becomes contaminated and can also securely receive grommets attached thereto) and is preferably resistant to pass-through contamination (absorbancy) of body fluids so that rescue workers may be protected from disease pathogens of vehicle accident victims. The material of the outer layers 32 may also desirably provide some additional cut-resistance as well as fire resistance. A preferred buffer material for the outer layers 32 is Nomex material, an aramid material which has good fire and cut resistance and which is marketed by E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company of Wilmington, DE. Examples of other suitable materials for outer layers 32 are P84 material (which is a spun m-aramid fiber material with a multi-lobal cross-section marketed by Inspec Fibres GmbH of Lensing, Austria), Basofil material (which is a melamine fiber material marketed by BASF Aktiengesellschaft of Germany), Advance material (which is a blend of 40% Nomex material and 60% Kevlar material and which is marketed by Southern Mills, Inc. of Union City, Georgia), and Millenia material (which is a blend of 40% Zylon material and 60% Technora material and which is also marketed by Southern Mills, Inc.). Zylon material is a polyphenylene-2,6-

benzobisoxazole material manufactured by Toyobo. Technora material is a p-aramid material manufactured by Teijin. Kevlar fibers may be blended into any of the above materials to provide increased cut resistance to the buffer layers 32 but in a small enough amount that the softness and body of the buffer layers 32 as discussed above are suitably maintained.

Paragraph which spans pages 7 and 8 (currently amended):

In order to prevent bunching of the blanket 12 so that it does not fall apart but has continuity and so that it has a comfortable and pleasing feel and appearance and is pliable and easily foldable, in accordance with the present invention, the blanket 12 is quilted, i.e., by "quilted" is meant stitching of the layers 30 and 32 together at spaced intervals over both the length and width of the blanket, the spacings between lines, illustrated at 34, of stitching being, for example, about 6 inches (straight line stitching, as shown in FIG. 3, making folding of the blanket easier). The stitching also makes repair easier, i.e., a new square may be put in and stitched along the same lines as the old square which is removed. The outer edges of the blanket 12 are ~~surged~~ serged (a form of stitching), as illustrated at 36.